

Message Text

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46

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 PM-09 DODE-00 INRE-00 MC-02

ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 T-03 OMB-01

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DRAFTED BY AF/ W: JKBISHOP: PCS

3-15-73 EXT 28436

APPROVED BY AF/ W: O. R. AGGREY

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OASD/ ISA: LTC W. STEPP

J-5: COL J. M. CONNELL

----- 063604

P R 151729 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 047873

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MASS: GH

SUBJECT: GHANAIN INTEREST IN M-16 RIFLES

ADDRESSEES: ALSO FOR DAOS

REF: USDAO ACCRA 0079 101058 Z MAR 73

1. USG POLICY PROHIBITS SALE OF M-16 TO AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS. USG THEREFORE WOULD OBJECT ALSO TO RESALE TO GHANA GOVERNMENT OF M-16'S BY ANY NON- AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZED PURCHASE THESE ARMS FROM COLT. SUCH AUTHORIZATIONS DO REQUIRE USG CONCURRENCE IN ANY SALES TO THIRD COUNTRIES.

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2. USG OBJECTION TO PURCHASE BY AFRICAN GOVERNMENT OF M-16 REFLECTS DESIRE LIMIT ESCALATION OF MODERN WEAPONS INTRODUCED TO AFRICA AND TO AVOID COSTLY AND UNNECESSARY ARMS MODERNIZATION PROGRAMS. (FYI: ONLY EXCEPTION HAS BEEN SMALL QUANTITY FOR ELITE PERSONAL SECURITY UNIT END FYI).

3. SHOULD GHANA GOVERNMENT QUESTION EMBASSY REGARDING AVAILABILITY OF M-16, SUGGEST RESPONSE BE FRAMED ALONG LINES PRECEEDING PARAGRAPHS.

4. FYI: SOGHANALIAN IS NOTORIOUS ARMS DEALER WHO HAS SUPPLIED PALESTINIAN GUERRILLAS, AS WELL AS SYRIAN ARMED FORCES. END FYI. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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